

Los Angeles County Fire Department Health Hazardous Materials Division

5825 Rickenbacker Rd, Commerce, CA 90040

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ASSESSMENT AND REMOVAL

Frequently Asked Questions

- How do I obtain a household hazardous waste assessment and removal for my property?
 - This Department is coordinating fire debris assessment and household hazardous waste removal activities to provide the necessary clearances for the safe removal of demolition/fire debris.
 - Inspections began during the week of December 3rd and could take several weeks or months to complete depending on your location. Inspectors will be going door to door so you will not have to schedule an appointment.
 - Property owners cannot opt out of household hazardous waste assessment and removal activities.
- Is there a cost?

There is no cost to the residential property owner for this work and you do not need to file a request to participate.

- Can I pay a fee to expedite my inspection?
 - No, this is a coordinated effort with federal, State & local agencies. These agencies started the assessment on December 3, 2018 on all affected areas using an orderly process (e.g. street by street).
- If I have an access issue on my property, what should I do? Please provide the information below by calling (323) 890-4000:
 - Name, address, email & phone number
 - The access issue on your property (e.g. locked gate)
- Can my contractor remove the household hazardous waste? No, this Department still needs to assess your property.
- Do I still need an approval from the LA County Fire Department to remove fire debris even though I don't have household hazardous waste?

Yes, this Department still needs to assess your property to verify there is no household hazardous waste on the property.



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How can I find out the progress on the assessment and removal? How can I find when the assessment team be in my area?

DTSC is developing a real-time Wildfire Public Dashboard that displays the latest information regarding the assessment and cleanup process. The website will be located at: https://www.dtsc.ca.gov/SiteCleanup/ERP/wildfire-waste-removal.cfm#firemap

• How do I know that an assessment has been completed?

A yellow assessment form will be posted on the property. This means that your property has been assessed and household hazardous waste (HHW) and asbestos removed (see conditions below). HHW can include propane tanks, batteries, paints, fuels, oils, paint thinner, compressed gas cylinders, or aerosol cans. Any HHW that was accessible and identifiable was removed from your property.

What are the containers I see with a white "X"?

If all the contents of hazardous materials were consumed in the fire and no longer pose a hazard, the empty tank or container will be marked with a white "X" and removed during the general debris removal operation of Phase II.

Is there still a danger with the fire debris and ash?

The fire debris and ash may contain hazardous substances like heavy metals and asbestos fibers.

What about the asbestos?

- Each assessment team has a Certified Asbestos Consultant (CAC) that screens the debris pile for asbestos containing material (ACM). If large, easily identifiable pieces of asbestos are identified by the CAC, they are marked with pink paint. If asbestos is spread throughout the debris pile, it is also identified with pink paint. Yellow "Caution" tape will be placed around the area where it is located. Depending on the size and distribution of the ACM, it will be handled as follows:
 - If only large, easily identifiable pieces of ACM are identified on your property, they will be removed by an asbestos removal contractor.
 - If asbestos is identified throughout the debris pile, it will be addressed during general debris removal operations.

What's next after the HHW assessment?

After the assessment, Phase II (debris removal and property clean-up) will commence. For further information, please call (888) CLEANLA / (888) 253-2652, or visit LA County Woolsey Fire Recovery Website: https://www.lacounty.gov/woolseyfire/